

# Public Art at North Creek Portal



At the North Creek portal in Bothell, public art is practical as well as attractive.

Public art mitigates the visual impacts of wastewater facilities and benefits their host communities. At this stage in the Brightwater project, the design team is finding creative ways to incorporate public art into permanent structures.

Permanent public art will be installed at the odor control tower on the Influent Pump Station, replacing the architectural enclosure previously planned. Christian Moeller, a preeminent artist working in the Media Arts genre, will turn the North Creek odor control tower into structural art. Moeller's *Glas Tower* will be composed of recycled glass with a stainless steel support structure. During daylight hours the glass will reflect and refract sunlight, while at night, a LED lighting system will softly illuminate the glass.

As he considered the Brightwater project and developed his ideas, Moeller drew inspiration from the variety of water towers in communities throughout the world. Through the Internet, he found examples of all shapes, sizes and materials used in water tower construction. These towers are often a prominent feature, especially in small towns, and serve as a source of community identity and pride. As he developed the water tower concept, Moeller became interested in using recycled glass water bottles to tie the artwork to the building's function. Like the many variations he observed in water tower construction, the artist was impressed with the remarkable diversity of shapes and containers used to market

The resulting sculpture will appear like a tower of water, reflecting the importance of the Brightwater system in the region's water quality protection. The *Glas Tower* illustrates an innovative use of recycled materials.

Using this approach, designers can transform structural elements such as towers and gates into works of art, adding aesthetic elements to a practical design in a cost-effective way.

Under the county's 1% for Art program, a portion of certain project costs will go towards installing and displaying public art. King County will spend about \$4.3 million project-wide on public art to visually enhance facilities.



**For the next four years**, the North Creek portal will be a busy construction site in a professional business park in Bothell. The county's contractor built a screen wall and painted it an attractive color to mitigate construction impacts on North Creek Business Park tenants. King County is enhancing the wall with a series of photograph murals created by Brightwater staff member David Freed. Displays will change periodically to refresh the wall's appearance. This cost-effective aesthetic enhancement will help the construction site be a good neighbor. Detail from David's photographs are pictured above, as well as on the newsletter cover.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:** Christian Moeller studied architecture at the College of Applied Sciences in Frankfurt and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. He started his own studio and media laboratory in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1990. He was a professor at the State College of Design in Karlsruhe, Germany. In 2001, he moved to the United States and currently serves as a Professor in the Department of Design/Media Arts at UCLA. Mr. Moeller's work can be viewed at [www.christian-moeller.com](http://www.christian-moeller.com).

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT NO. 836



## Brightwater T R E A T M E N T   S Y S T E M

### Inside This Issue

- **Brightwater offers construction jobs to veterans and other apprentices**
- **Public Art at North Creek Portal**
- **Map of "backbone" pipeline for reclaimed water distribution system.**
- **Brightwater provides space for Habitat for Humanity projects**



SUMMER/FALL 2006

Produced by the King County  
Department of Natural  
Resources and Parks  
SUMMER/FALL 2006  
0608bWNEWMS.indd wgab,sk  
Printed on  
Recycled Paper  
Please Recycle

This information is provided in  
alternative formats for individuals  
with disabilities on request by  
calling the Wastewater Treatment  
Division at 206-684-1280 or 711 TTY.

Department of  
Natural Resources and Parks  
Wastewater Treatment Division  
King Street Center  
KSC-NR-0503, 201 S. Jackson St.  
Seattle, WA 98104-3855



SUMMER/FALL 2006

# Brightwater T R E A T M E N T   S Y S T E M



## Brightwater construction offers career opportunities to veterans and other apprentices

The Brightwater project is helping the nation's veterans find career opportunities in the construction industry.

Brightwater's project labor agreement, or PLA, requires contractors to participate in an apprenticeship program to help workers acquire skills needed for career advancement in construction trades. About 15 percent of Brightwater project work hours will be performed by workers at various apprenticeship levels.

One of the goals of Brightwater's apprenticeship program is to help veterans, Guardsmen and Reservists find construction career opportunities through the Helmets to Hardhats program, which is administered by the Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans Employment.

Military veterans are often excellent candidates for construction careers, given their experience with heavy equipment and high levels of technical training during deployment, according to Helmets to Hardhats: Success Stories. Veterans approach a job already knowing how to work in teams under tight schedules and tough conditions.

Construction projects offer returning veterans career opportunities in an industry that serves the public by supporting regional eco-

nomie development. Construction positions offer good wages and benefits and a support network in local unions. The discipline, dependability, and teamwork required on construction sites offers a familiar extension of veterans' military life.

The Brightwater PLA also features an apprentice mentoring program designed to encourage retention of all apprentices who join the program. This program matches apprentices with journey level workers for support throughout training.

"These opportunities give our veterans a career path in an industry with good wages and benefits, plus a support network through local union membership," said King County Executive Ron Sims. "Helping our veterans put their military skills and training to work in civilian life is a great way to thank them for their service."

Veterans, reservists and transitioning military personnel can get more information about Helmets to Hardhats and register to participate on the Web at [www.helmetstohardhats.org](http://www.helmetstohardhats.org). People can also call the Helmets to Hardhats support line at 866-741-6210.

Watch your  
mailbox for an upcoming  
special edition of the Brightwater  
Newsletter. Learn how Brightwater  
engineers design for safety in our  
seismically active region.



Volunteers learn home construction skills in a training course at the Brightwater warehouse.

### INSIDE:

Learn about Brightwater's planned "backbone" system for supplying reclaimed water

### King County partners to build homes for families in need!

King County partners with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for families in need! The County is providing warehouse space at the Brightwater treatment plant site at the junction of State Route 9 and SR 522 for volunteer construction projects and training. The large Brightwater warehouse allows volunteers to work inside and year round. In 2006, Habitat for Humanity conducted the Cornerstone training in the Brightwater warehouse. Over seven Saturdays, volunteers received training in basic construction techniques.

Habitat for Humanity scheduled a special project at the Brightwater warehouse Saturday, August 19. Edmonds Community College construction management students participated in Operation Home Delivery, building and shipping a home to Hurricane Katrina victims. In eight hours, about twenty volunteers framed a three-bedroom home for shipment to the Bayou Habitat for Humanity affiliate in Thibodaux, Louisiana.

King County is pleased to support Habitat for Humanity and their efforts to provide families with safe, decent, affordable houses. For more information about Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County, please visit: <http://www.scn.org/hfhswscpl/>.

## The "Backbone" is connected to the future

**The Brightwater system includes a "backbone": a dedicated pipeline system to supply reclaimed water produced at the new wastewater treatment plant to water distributors, irrigators and industries in north King County and south Snohomish County.**

In late 2005, the King County Council approved funding for the \$26 million Brightwater Reclaimed Water Backbone, to add reclaimed water pipes in tunnels already being built for the Brightwater's conveyance system. By including the pipes in the tunnel now, King County can make reclaimed water available for distribution at a much lower cost than building a separate pipeline system in the future.

King County will also cut costs by converting an existing 4.5 mile wastewater pipe to carry reclaimed water from the Brightwater facilities in Bothell to the York Pump Station in the Sammamish River Valley. In this area, farms, sports fields and golf courses can take advantage of reclaimed water for irrigation.

King County is now working with local water utilities to evaluate ways to connect customers to the Brightwater backbone. Reclaimed water will be available from Brightwater by 2012.

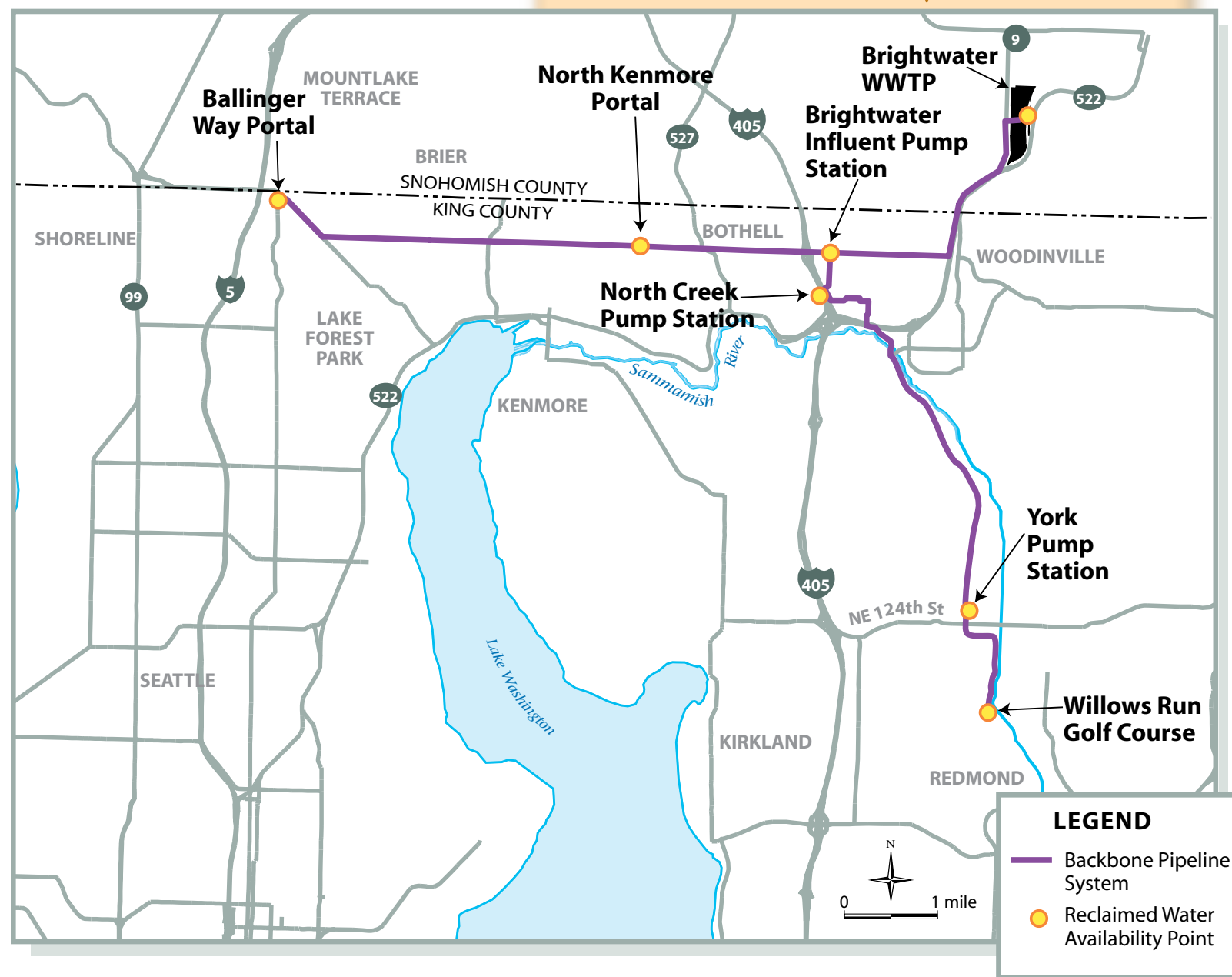
In a 2005 survey, 82 percent of residents said they supported the county's efforts to use reclaimed water. According to the summary report, "more than half (61 percent) of residents say they would be more likely to use a business or buy a product if it used reclaimed water." Using reclaimed water for irrigation instead of water from sources like the Sammamish River would

improve flows and maintain cooler temperatures in the River.

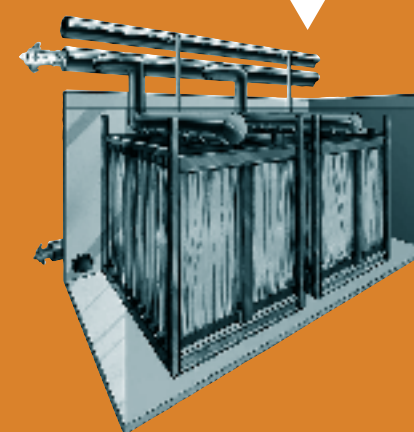
These benefits would help offset the effects of drought and low snow packs on habitat for salmon and other wildlife.

King County's Brightwater Reclaimed Water Backbone project is a forward-thinking plan that responds to the complex challenges of meeting water supply needs as our region grows. Putting this project in motion now, using existing and planned infrastructure, reduces costs, limits impacts to the community, and makes this valuable resource more widely available to industries and irrigators who don't require drinking quality water.

**RECLAIMED WATER PIPES** will be installed in the tunnels planned for the Brightwater conveyance system from the treatment plant to the Ballinger Way Portal. An existing pipe will be converted to carry reclaimed water to the Sammamish Valley.



Brightwater will use the latest technology, called **membrane bioreactor, or MBR, to treat wastewater.** This new technology produces much cleaner effluent than conventional processes – so clean, that after disinfection, it meets reclaimed water standards. For more information about MBR, visit our Web site at: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/brightwater/facilities>.



## Stay involved in Brightwater

Community involvement continues to be an important part of the Brightwater project. We have an active speakers' bureau and welcome the opportunity to meet with your neighborhood association or community group to discuss the Brightwater project or other water quality issues. If you are interested in arranging a speaker for your next group meeting, please contact us.

## We also welcome your comments, concerns, or ideas

Our address:  
**22509 State Route 9 S.E.  
Suite 101  
Woodinville, WA  
98072-6010**

**E-mail**  
[brightwater@metrokc.gov](mailto:brightwater@metrokc.gov)

**Phone**  
206-684-6799, toll free at  
1-888-707-8571 or 711 TTY

**Fax**  
206-684-1741

Or sign up online:

**Web site**  
<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/WTD/brightwater>

## BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO.168 SEATTLE, WA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY THE ADDRESSEE



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND PARKS  
WASTEWATER TREATMENT DIVISION  
KSC-NR-0503  
201 S JACKSON ST  
SEATTLE WA 98104-9972



FOLD ON DASHED LINE AND TAPE SHUT. PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE.

To keep community members informed about upcoming project activities, we are creating mailing lists for each of the Brightwater construction sites. If you are interested, give us your name, let us know which list you'd like to be on, and tell us how you prefer to be contacted. We occasionally send out e-mail updates between construction flier mailings.

- ☐ Route 9 treatment plant site
- ☐ North Creek portal site (Bothell)
- ☐ North Kenmore portal site
- ☐ Ballinger Way portal site (Shoreline)
- ☐ Point Wells portal site (Shoreline/Woodway)
- ☐ Brightwater Newsletter

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information by (please check one or both)

☐ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ U.S. mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Projected Brightwater Timeline

